Pocket No.: WMP-IFT631

I Bereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Mexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

BV VI II TK

Date: October 20, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applic. No.

09/943,589

Confirmation No: 1967

Applicant Filed

Rainald Sander August 30, 2001

Art Unit

2829

Examiner

Paresh H. Patel

Docket No.

WMP-IFT631

Customer No. :

24131

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(C)(2)</u>

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98 copies of the following patents and/or publications are submitted herewith:

United States Patent No. 5,144,514 (Sekigawa et al.), dated September 1, 1992, and corresponding German Patent DE 40 20 187 C2, dated January 17, 1991;

United States Patent No. 5,375,029 (Fukunaga et al.), dated December 20, 1994, and corresponding German Published Non-Prosecuted Patent Application DE 43 34 386 A1, dated April 14, 1994;

United States Patent application Publication US 2002/0024376 A1 (Sander), dated February 28, 2002, and corresponding German Patent DE 100 42 585 C1, dated November 14, 2002;

Japanese Patent Abstract JP 00 235 424 A (Oshima), dated August 29, 2000.

10/29/2003 SSITHIB1 00000077 09943589 180.00 OP In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) the undersigned herewith states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (c) (2), consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is requested.

Enclosed is the fee in the amount of \$180.00.

Respectfully submitted,

For Applicant

Date: October 20, 2003

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/bmb

Kyle H. Flindt Reg. No. 42,539 01PE VC705

FORMPTO-1449 (SUBSTITUTE)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (37 CFR 1.98(b))

| Attorney Docket No.: | Applic. No. | | |
|----------------------|-------------|--|--|
| WMP-IFT631 | 09/943,589 | | |
| Applicant | d Sander | | |

Filing Date Group Art Unit

August 30, 2001

2829

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIALS | | PATENT NO. | DATE | PATENTEE | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FILING DATE |
|-------------------|---|--------------------|----------|-----------------|-------|--------------|----------------|
| | Α | 5,144,514 | 09/01/92 | Sekigawa et al. | | | |
| | В | 5,375,029 | 12/20/94 | Fukunaga et al. | | ا با | |
| | С | 2002/0024376 A1 | 02/28/02 | Sander | | 0.20 | 8 7 |
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| | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB CLASS | TRAI YES | |
|---|---------------|----------|---------|-------|--------------|-------------|---|
| J | 40 20 187 C2 | 01/17/91 | Germany | | | | X |
| К | 43 34 386 A1 | 04/14/94 | Germany | | | | X |
| L | 100 42 585 C1 | 11/14/02 | Germany | | | | Х |
| М | 00 235 424 A | 08/29/00 | Japan | | | X | |
| N | | | | | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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| EXAMINER | | DATE CONSIDERED |

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with

next communication to applicant.